

STATE OF NEW-YORK.

No. 53.

IN ASSEMBLY,

January 22, 1841.

REPORT

Of the committee on medical colleges and societies, on the petitions of the trustees and the medical faculty of Geneva College.

Mr. Taylor, from the committee on medical colleges and societies, to whom was referred the petition of the trustees and the medical faculty of Geneva College,

REPORTS:

That the medical department of Geneva College, was organized in 1834 under the powers conferred upon the college, and by the act of 27th March 1835, was placed in point of privileges, upon an equal footing with the medical colleges of the several States of the Union.

Since its establishment its usefulness has been fairly subjected to the test of experiment and public observation; commencing with a class of a little over 20 in 1835, the number of students has steadily increased and has reached to 130 during the present term. But notwithstanding this apparently prosperous condition of the school, it has had to struggle against pecuniary difficulties which have doubtless materially contributed to lessen its usefulness to the public.

The affairs of the different departments of the college have to be kept entirely distinct, and while the trustees of the college, owing to the long delay of that public aid which has been promptly extended to

other colleges, have been so embarrassed in their pecuniary affairs as to be utterly unable to afford the necessary aid to the medical department. The medical faculty who have the immediate charge of the interests of this department, have been subjected to heavy pecuniary responsibilities, and still have been unable to furnish for the medical classes the buildings and apparatus essential to the success and usefulness of the school.

The buildings now occupied by the literary and medical departments are within a few feet of each other, and all the buildings are said to be inadequate even for the classical department. This juxtaposition of the buildings of the two departments, disadvantageous to both, has resulted from the inability of the trustees to remove the literary department to another location as was contemplated when the medical buildings was erected, and from necessity they have been obliged to resolve on retaining it permanently in the old location. The trustees after adopting this resolution, engaged to furnish a building for the medical department in another location, but have hitherto been, and still are, unable to fulfill this engagement.

The recent annuity from the State, was set apart exclusively by the Legislature to the payment of professors and teachers in the literary department, while the medical department has received no endowment or assistance from the State.

The salutary influence of well conducted medical schools upon one of the paramount interests of community—the public health, and the duty of the public to sustain them, is becoming, it is believed, more duly appreciated ; and your committee entertain the opinion, that from the rising reptonation of the medical department of Geneva College, its eligible location in the centre of Western New-York, and its evident need of aid to develope its usefulness to the public, it presents a strong claim upon the fostering care of the Legislature.

The committee, therefore, ask leave to introduce a bill.

